

Urban District Council of Padiham



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year Ending December 31st, 1963

J. W. J. FORSYTHE, M.B., C.H.B., B.A.O.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1963

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mac'am and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my thirty eighth Annual Report dealing with the Health of the inhabitants of Padiham during 1963.

Acting on the instruction of the Ministry of Health this will be an interim report, confined to essential or urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year, such as overcrowding, sanitation, distribution of clean food, outbreaks of infectious diseases and the condition of the water supply.

VITAL STATISTICS

Mortality rates per 1,000 est. population -

Total (all forms)	
Crude rate	16.1
Adjusted rate	16.3
Respiratory T.B.	Nil
Malignant neoplasms, etc.	2.19
(Cols. 10 - 15 incl. of S.D. 30)	

Live Births

Number	170
Rate per 1000 population	Crude rate 16.9
	Adjusted rate 18.8

Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births) 7.06

Stillbirths

Number	3
Rate per 1000 total live and still-births	17.3

Total Live and Still-births 173

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year) 4

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1000 live births	23.5
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	25.32
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births	23.5
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under one week per 1000 total live births	17.6
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Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still-births	34.7
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still-births	Nil
<u>Population</u>	Estimated mid-year Home Population 10,050
<u>Comparability Factors</u>	Births 1.11 Deaths 1.01

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	72	86	158
Illegitimate	4	8	12

<u>Still-Births</u>			
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u>			
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>			
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age</u>			
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

<u>Deaths from all causes</u>	75	87	162
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<u>Causes of Death</u>	
Malignant neoplasm - Stomach	4
Lungs	6
Breast	5
Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	7
Diabetes	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	32
Coronary disease, angina	30
Hypertension	1
Other heart diseases	19
Other circulatory diseases	16
Pneumonia	2
Influenza	1
Bronchitides	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1
Congenital Malformations	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15
Accidents	7
Motor Accidents	2
Suicide	1

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Unemployment is still fairly prevalent during 1963 and is confined more or less to cotton operatives. Most of the mills in Padiham run their own canteens and these should be encouraged and used more than they are by the workers. Workers on special diets are also catered for.

The County Council has control of two nurseries in the area where children under school age, of women employed in industry, are looked after. The staff in these nurseries have faithfully carried out our instructions to isolate or send home any child who is not well, and in this way, any spread of infection has been controlled.

All the schools in the district provide dinners for the children and this has been highly successful.

The welfare of the old people has been well looked after by various voluntary associations and their work is to be highly commended. Cheap dinners are given every Tuesday at the Ambulance Hall and transport facilities are given to cases unable to walk to the Hall. In addition the two buildings used for entertaining the old people are well attended.

Valuable work is being done by the Association formed to help the Handicapped and Disabled people in Padiham.

The health of the inhabitants has been remarkably good during the year and so far as recreations are concerned, full advantage was taken of all the facilities controlled by the local authority and the various Sunday Schools.

For the last year or two, I have drawn attention to the increasing dental caries in the young and addition of Fluorine to the water supply was recommended by me to counteract this, but there is a diversion of opinion among some of the members of the Council and nothing so far has been done, but probably the newly constituted Water Board will remedy this error.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

- i. 25 samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination. 18 were satisfactory and 7 unsatisfactory.
- ii. The number of dwelling houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains are:-

	<u>Dwelling houses</u>	<u>Population</u>
(a) Direct of the houses	3658	9893
(b) By means of stand pipes	Nil	Nil

Sewerage

The district is on the water carriage system with the exception of three outlying farm premises.

Number of pail closets	5
Number of waste water closets	801
Number of fresh water closets	5527
Number of houses connected to system	3794
Number of waste water closets converted to fresh water closets during the year	54

Rivers and Streams

The Lancashire River Board is responsible for the supervision and protection of rivers and streams in the district.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Houses - Public Health Act	74
Houses - Housing Act	24
Houses - Rent Act	3
Housing - Improvement Grants	114
Fireguard Act	1
Factories Act	17
Workshops	23
Shops Act	585
Food and Drugs Act	24
Pet Shops Act	2
Clean Air Act	563
Noise Abatement Act	4
Diseases of Animals Act	2
Agricultural Act, 1956	8
Pests Control Act	54
Infectious Disease Cases	3
Revisits	59
Smoke Observations	24
Bakehouses	23
Fish and Chip Shops	18
Butchers' Shops	32
Ice-Cream Premises	3
Food Sampling	42
Houses - Disinfestation	14
Domestic Refuse Collection	107
Trade Refuse Collection	45
Refuse Disposal (Tips)	471
Salvage	457
Street Cleansing	330
Aged Persons	4
Miscellaneous	192
	<u>3322</u>
Interviews	272

RODENT CONTROL

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses Inc. Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	Agriculture
i. Number of properties in Local Authority District	4	3794	372	4170	14
ii. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification		34	10	44	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common Rat Major		-	-	-	-
Minor		22	3	25	-
Ship Rat Major		-	-	-	-
Minor		-	-	-	-
House Mouse Major		-	-	-	-
Minor		12	7	19	-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses Inc. Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	Agric- ulture
iii. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	4		78	82	14
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common Rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	4	-	-	-	-
Ship Rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House Mouse Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	-	-	-	-
iv. Total number of properties otherwise inspected	-	232	293	525	-
Number of such properties found to be infested	-	-	-	-	-
v. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	596	564	767	1927	28
vi. Number of infested properties treated By L. A.	4	34	10	44	-
vii. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	26	60	17	103	-
viii. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act.					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural	-	-	-	-	-
ix. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
x. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
xi. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

AGRICULTURAL ACT, 1956

Sanitary Conveniences on Farms

The farm properties in this district are visited at frequent intervals, and all matters which require inspection are dealt with. It has not been found necessary to take any action under the above Act.

DISINFESTATION

Ten premises were dealt with for vermin, seven for cockroaches two for fleas and one for bugs. The refuse tip at Lumb Wood was periodically dusted with D. D. T. powder to ensure cockroach and cricket control.

DISINFECTION

No disinfection was carried out during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Slaughterhouses

- (a) One person applied for, and was granted a licence to slaughter animals.
- (b) The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 replace, with amendments, the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 to 1952. No contraventions were observed during the year.

(c) Food Premises

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Inspections</u>
Bakers and Confectioners	18	59
Butchers and Meat Purveyors	16	32
Cafes and Snack Bars	3	6
Chemists	5	10
Cooked Foods	4	8
Fish Fryers	7	18
Fishmongers	3	6
Greengrocers	13	26
Grocers	62	145
Licenced premises	16	32
Aerated Waters (Mineral)	2	4
Off licences	10	20
Poultry dealer	1	14
Potato Merchant	1	2
Sweets - sugar confections	10	20
Wine Merchants	2	4
Tripe Dresser	1	16

(d) Milk and Dairies

- i. The following registration and licencing matters were dealt with during the year

Number of persons registered as Distributors of Milk 57

- ii. The following is the state of registered premises:-

Number of premises registered for sale or manufacture of ice-cream 65

Number of premises registered for preparation or manufacture of sausage or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food 43

Total number of registrations during the year 108

(e) Food Hygiene Regulations

Regular visits were made to food preparing premises, and it is a pleasure to report that it has not been necessary to make any official representation.

(f) Foodstuffs

The following quantity of foodstuffs was examined, condemned for original use, surrendered for disposal and destroyed:-

201 packages of various foodstuffs weighing 292 lbs.

1 Hind quarter of beef weighing 178 lbs.

A firm of food packers was convicted and fined £21. 0s. 0d. with £7. 0s. 0d. costs for permitting a small piece of metal in a tin of meat.

(g) Food Poisoning

No cases occurred during the year.

(h) Offensive Trades

The following offensive trades are now in existence within the District:-

Tripe Boiler	1
Size Maker	1
Fish Fryers	9

The various premises have been inspected on 34 occasions.

CLEAN AIR ACT

- (a) The Padiham No. 2 Smoke Control Order became operative as from the 1st November, 1962.
- (b) The Proposed Padiham Nos. 3 and 4 Smoke Control Areas have been approved by the Minister and come into operation on the 1st July, 1963.
- (c) Padiham No. 5 and No. 6 Smoke Control Order became operative from 1st November, 1963.
- (d) The proposed Padiham No. 7 Smoke Control Area has been shelved for six months owing to difficulties with special grates and insufficient quantities of proper fuel.
- (e) One complaint was received during the year and 24 smoke observations were made. 500 interviews and discussions with householders and managements took place during the year.
- (f) Fog occurred on two days during the year

HOUSING

- (a) Number of new houses erected during the year 69
- (b) Number of houses erected under the various acts:-

i.	Housing Act 1919	31
ii.	Housing Act 1923/24	170
iii.	Housing Act 1930/36	228
iv.	Housing Act 1936/46	21
v.	Housing Act 1946/51	260
vi.	Housing Act 1957	<u>126</u>
		<u>836</u>

14 terraced houses have been purchased by Council during 1963.

(c) Overcrowding

No overcrowding, as set down in the Housing Act, was observed during the year.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

i. Demolition and Closing Orders:-

Housing Act, 1957

	Houses	Number of Persons Displaced
(a) Demolished - Section 46 ^{CLEARANCE AREA}	26 37	85
(b) Closed - Undertaking still in force	2	-
<u>Repairs</u>		
Rendered fit - informal action	10	

Public Health Act

Defects remedied (1) By owners Nil
(2) By Local Authority 1

Clearance of Unfit Houses

(a) The following areas were cleared of dwellings during the year

John O'Gauant Street Compulsory Purchase Order 16 dwellings, 1 shop
Waddington Street Compulsory Purchase Order 2 dwellings
Horne Street Compulsory Purchase Order ~~18~~ dwellings

(b) A Closing Order was made on the following dwelling

20 Kay Street

(c) The following dwelling was dealt with under Section 16 of the Housing Act.

6 Hambledon Street

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1963 was more or less a normal year apart from a rather sharp outbreak of measles. The type was more severe than normal but no deaths were reported. Diphtheria is conspicuous by its absence and tuberculosis is rapidly approaching the same happy conclusion. There has been in the past year or two a reduction in the number of babies being immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and I do not feel happy about it and would appeal to all the Practitioners in the area to use their influence to combat this.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year

Measles	151
Chicken Pox	2
Scarlet Fever	4

TUBERCULOSIS

There has been no case of tuberculosis notified during the year.

The Mass Radiographic Unit paid us another visit during 1962 and the response by the inhabitants was magnificent, an increase of over a thousand on the previous visit.

Findings: No case of active tuberculosis was discovered and only one case of tuberculosis requiring occasional supervision.

Two cases of malignant neoplasm were discovered and referred to the appropriate Consultant.

24 significant conditions of the heart were reported upon.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

It seems that my remarks about Public Swimming Baths were rather optimistic last year, but I still would like to urge the Local Authority to go ahead with the scheme. They will receive the thanks of not only the children of Padiham but also the hundreds from Sabden, Simonstone, Read Higham and Hapton who have to go to Burnley to indulge in this necessary healthy pastime.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Inspections

Premises	Number of	
	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories with Mechanical Power	17	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power	23	Nil

Defects Found				
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsatisfactory Sanitary Convenience	1	1	-	1

Classification of Factories and Workshops

Abrasive crushing and grinding	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bread and confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	11
Boiled sweet makers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Boot repairers and cloggers	..	..	..	..	..	4
Carpet manufacture	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cotton weaving etc.	..	..	..	..	..	6
Cotton waste sorter	..	..	..	..	..	2
Corn grinding	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cushion maker	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dress-making, milliners etc.	..	..	..	..	..	2
Drysalter	..	..	..	..	..	1
Electrical generation	..	..	..	..	..	2
Electrical engineering	..	..	..	..	..	2
Engineering (jobbing)	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fire-place makers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gas appliance maker	..	..	..	..	..	1
Heating plant engineers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hospital clothing maker	..	..	..	..	..	1
Joinery	..	..	..	..	..	6
Jute pulling	..	..	..	..	..	1
Laundry	..	..	..	..	..	1
Leather (artificial chamois) manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Motor vehicle repairer	..	..	..	..	..	3
Minerals (aerated waters)	..	..	..	..	..	2
Mop making	..	..	..	..	..	1
Printers	..	..	..	..	..	4
Painters	..	..	..	..	..	8
Poultry plucking	..	..	..	..	..	1
Power owners	..	..	..	..	..	2
Photographers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Plumbers	..	..	..	..	..	7
Plush weaving	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rag and fent sorting	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rayon fabric weaving	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ready mixed concrete manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Reed makers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salvage packing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Silk weaving	..	..	..	..	..	1
Size makers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Springs for motor trade manufacture	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tailors	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tile slabbing	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tripe dressers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wadding (laminated)	..	..	..	..	..	1
Warp knitting	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wireless/Television	..	..	..	..	..	2

The number of Factories now in the Register is 53

The number of Workplaces now in the Register is 9

The number of Bakehouses now in the Register is 11

As this will be my last Annual Report I would like to thank the Clerk of the Council, the Public Health Inspector and the Surveyor for their loyal co-operation during the year.

It has been a privilege to have such an efficient and loyal Public Health Inspector during my term of office. We have worked like a team and never has there been the slightest friction between us.

To the Members of the Council I would like to render thanks for their forbearance with me and for all their willingness to accept nearly all of my recommendations for the continual good health of the inhabitants of Padiham.

I have enjoyed my thirty eight years as Medical Officer of Health and I hope that with their usual courtesy, the Council will ask me to be present if and when the swimming baths are opened in the future as I feel that this is the only 'baby' that I have not been able to produce in my term of office.

I am,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

J. W. J. FORSYTHE

M.B., B.CH., B.A.O.

Medical Officer of
Health.

